U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

April 17, 2008

MR. WILLIAM J. MAXWELL
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
608 SOUTH WRIGHT STREET
URBANA, IL 61801

Request No.: 1112985- 000
Subject: ~~CRUSE, HAROLD~~

Dear Requester:

The records that you have requested were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act for another requester.

Enclosed are 76 pages of documents pertaining to your request and a copy of the explanation of exemptions.

You may submit an appeal from any denial contained herein by writing to the Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

(b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;

(b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;

(b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute(A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;

(b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;

(b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;

(b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;

(b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or

(b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

(d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;

(j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;

(k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;

(k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;

(k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;

(k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET 08/07/1950

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 3
Page 71 ~ b1, b3
per CIA
Page 73 ~ b1, b3
per CIA
Page 74 ~ b1, b3
per CIA

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X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
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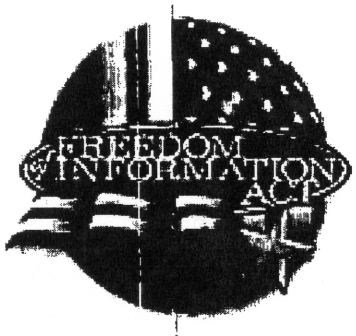
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT Harold Cruse

FILE NUMBER 100-HQ-370842

SECTION NUMBER 1



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FD-122
(10-19-49)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: AUG - 7 1950

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Sd card filed 9-15-50 RH

13-1
12-1 encl.

X It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

___ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE

ALIASES Harold Cruze, H. Cruse, H. W. Cruse, Harold Cruse, Harold W. Cruse, Harold Cruzi, Harold Wright

RACE Negro SEX M NATIVE BORN X NATURALIZED ___ ALIEN ___

COMMUNIST X SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY ___ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE ___

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) ___

TAB FOR DETCOM ___ TAB FOR COMSAB ___

DATE OF BIRTH March 12, 1916 PLACE OF BIRTH Petersburg, Virginia

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 116 West 117th Street, apartment 6, New York City

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)

Freedom of the Press, Incorporated

50 East Thirteenth Street, New York City

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

Publishes "Daily Worker"

SEP 7 10 59 AM '50 FBI-STATE SECT. PUNCHED

EX-16 Inc. (5)

JGC:BLR
100-87332

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP4 AMW/mlf #43019

RECORDED 105

100 - 370842

AUG 8 1950

34

EX-16

b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT New York

NY FILE NO. 100-87332 BLR

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	AUG - 7 1950	5/3-5,8-12;7/11-14, 17/50	

TITLE
HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was: Harold Cruse, H. Cruse, H. W. Cruse, Harold W. Cruse, Harold Cruzi, Harold Wright

CHARACTER OF CASE
SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject born under name HAROLD WRIGHT at Petersburg, Va., 3/12/16. Resides 116 W. 117th St., NYC, apt. 6. Employed as writer and lecturer by "Daily Worker." Subject's Veterans record set out. Subject attended CP Veterans Convention at Washington, D. C. in 1947. In 1947 subject was a member of Ben Davis Club. Subject reputed to be fanatical supporter of Communist program. Subject member of American Newspaper Guild. Marched in May Day Parade in 1949. Attended Jefferson School of Social Science. Subject member American Labor Party. No credit record located. Description set out.

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- P* -

DETAILS

This investigation is predicated upon information received from Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, on October 30, 1948 to the effect that HAROLD CRUZE is a writer for the "Daily Worker" and is a fanatical supporter of the Communist program.

BIRTH

A review of the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics for the State of Virginia failed to reflect any birth record for either a HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE or a HAROLD WRIGHT CREWS. However, in Volume 415, Certificate No. 8919, the birth record of a HAROLD WRIGHT was recorded with the date and place of birth listed as March 12, 1916 at Petersburg,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Edward Schultz SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

100 - 370842

RECORDED - 105
INDEXED - 105
EX-16

AUG 8 1950

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R 472 MAR 28 1963

(5) Bureau
3 - New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE DATE 3-30-79

COPY IN FILE

PROPERTY OF FBI - THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-1

Virginia. The race of the child was given as colored. The records further reflect that the 1946 City Directory for Petersburg, Virginia, reveals a LELIA CREWS resides at 849 East Bank Street in that city. It is noted that a LELIA CRUSE was listed as the subject's grandmother and sole dependent in his records at the Veteran's Administration, New York City.

RESIDENCE

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised on April 21, 1950 that HAROLD WRIGHT-CRUSE is presently residing at 116 West 117th Street, apartment six, New York City.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, confirmed the above information by advising that an H. CRUSE and an H. W. CRUSE, both with a social security number identical with that of the subject, is employed by the Freedom of the Press, Incorporated. b2 b7D

EMPLOYMENT

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised on June 9, 1947 that the subject was employed by Freedom of the Press, Incorporated, 50 East Thirteenth Street, New York City, as a writer on the editorial staff. It is to be noted that the "Daily Worker", an East Coast Communist newspaper is published by the Freedom of the Press, Incorporated.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised on July 14, 1950 that the subject was presently employed by the above company.

BACKGROUND

The subject's file with the Veteran's Administration, 252 Seventh Avenue, New York City, reveals the following information:

Service Record — Enlisted United States Army on March 20, 1941; discharged (honorably) September 16, 1945; rank at discharge: [redacted] disability: 10 per cent - flat feet, third degree; Army Serial No.: 32012226.

Education	Haaren High School, New York City. Graduated 1936.
Former Addresses	2737 Corger Avenue, New York City, 1940-1941 176 Third Avenue, New York City, 1945-1949 116 West 117th Street, New York City, 1949-present
Former Employment	Clerk, Y. M. C. A., 180 West 135th Street, New York City, 1940-1941 United States Army, 1941-1945 Veteran's Administration, 1945-1946

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITIES

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that HAROLD CRUSE spoke at a meeting protesting the "lynch-murders" of Negroes in Georgia. This meeting was sponsored by the United Negro andAllied Veterans of America on August 10, 1946 in New York City. b2 b7D

It is to be noted that the above organization is one coming within the purview of Executive Order No. 9835 by letters of November 24, 1947 and May 27, 1948, according to the classifications of Section three, Part three of the Executive Order.

In the May 8, 1947 issue of the "Daily Worker," an East Coast Communist newspaper, on page three, column five, an article entitled "Communist Vets Meet in Capital Today" states that the subject was one of the five hundred delegates to attend the first annual convention of the Communist Veterans of America, which met in Turner's Arena in Washington, D. C. This meeting was called by ROBERT THOMPSON, New York State Chairman of the Communist Party.

In the May 10, 1947 issue of the "Daily Worker" there appeared on page six a photograph of the subject in an Army uniform standing at the foot of the bronze monument in Washington, D. C. of the Flag Raising on Iwo Jimo, while he, the subject, was in Washirgton, D. C. attending the first convention of the Communist War Veterans in May 1947.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on September 20, 1947 that the subject attended an executive meeting of the Communist Party on this date at the BEN DAVIS club, 2315 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

Confidential Informant [redacted] further advised on September 18, 1947 that the subject was in attendance at the Communist Party meeting at Madison Square Garden on this date celebrating the Marxist Centennial. [redacted] further advised that the subject was a writer and lecturer for the "Worker."

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on February 4, 1949 that the subject was a member of the American Newspaper Guild, Daily Worker Unit, Local No. Three and that on this date he was employed as a copy boy by the "Daily Worker."

Confidential Informant [redacted] further advised that the subject attended a meeting of the American Newspaper Guild on October 20, 1947.

Confidential Informant [redacted] who appeared to be reliable and who holds a responsible position with a New York newspaper, stated that the New York Chapters of the American Newspaper Guild were completely subjugated to the Communist Party influence. b2 b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] stated that HAROLD CRUZE on June 26 and 27, 1948 was in attendance at the Harlem Regional Convention of the Communist Party held in the Elks Hall, 15 West 126th Street, New York City. [redacted] further advised in December 1948 that HAROLD CRUZE, of the Lincoln Douglas Club in the Harlem Section of the Communist Party, New York City [redacted] b2 [redacted] advised that the club's membership aids and works with the subject.

Confidential Informant [redacted] stated that on December 11, 1948 HAROLD CRUZE was present at a dance given by the "Daily Worker" in the Penthouse Ballroom, 13 Astor Place, New York City.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on January 18, 1949 that the subject was Treasurer of the Daily Worker Unit of the American Newspaper Guild.

Confidential Informant [redacted] stated that the subject was in attendance and marched in the Communist Party sponsored May Day Parade in 1949 in New York City.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that HAROLD CRUZE attended the PAUL ROBESON Rally held on June 19, 1949 at the Rockland Palace, New York City. The subject, an employee of the "Daily Worker," advised [redacted] that he had recently completed a thirty-week course at the Jefferson School of Social Science.

It is to be noted that during April 1944, New York Informant [redacted] who is a reliable informant, advised that PAUL ROBESON was a Communist Party member under the name of JOHN THOMAS.

It is further noted that the Jefferson School of Social Science appears on the Attorney General's list as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order No. 9835. b2 b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on August 11, 1949 that a press release entitled "Forty Writers and Artists Lecture Court House Captain on Democracy" had been prepared by the Writers and Artists Committee to Free the Three, protesting the jailing on contempt charges of HENRY WINSTON, GUS HALL, and GILBERT GREEN. It is noted that the above were three of the eleven Communist leaders on trial for conspiracy to overthrow the Government of the United States by force and violence. The subject's name appeared as a signer to the above petition.

An article in the "Daily Worker" of August 17, 1949, on page nine, column one, entitled "Free Winston Banners Ring Detroit Building" states in the second paragraph that 100 writers and artists yesterday demanded immediate freedom for HENRY WINSTON, GUS HALL and GILBERT GREEN. The subject's name appeared as a signer to this petition. b2 b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised on November 23, 1949 that the subject was one of the persons sending communications to the Judge protesting the trial of the eleven leaders of the Communist Party.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised in November 1949 that the subject was a feature writer for the "Daily Worker" and was a member of the Communist Party.

It is to be noted that the subject has had the following articles appear in the "Daily Worker" under his by-line:

Review of American Negro Theatre Production "Freight" on March 2, 1949;
"China Changed My Mind" - Book Review - April 18, 1949;
Review of Stage Production "Gayden" - May 17, 1949;
Letter entitled "Bill Robinson - the Artist, the Individual" - January 22, 1950.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised on April 17, 1950 that HAROLD W. CRUSE was a member of the International Workers Order, Lodge No. 691, Harlem, New York City. b2 b7D

It is to be noted that the International Workers Order is an organization listed by the Attorney General as one coming within the purview of Executive Order No. 9835.

Confidential Informants [redacted] and [redacted] all of known reliability, advised they they were not aware of any Communist Party activities of the subject.

MISCELLANEOUS

The records of the New York City Board of Elections reflected that in 1948 the subject registered under the emblem of the American Labor Party. In connection with the American Labor Party, the report of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, Seventy-ninth Congress, dated May 29, 1946, at Washington, D. C. reflects the following information:

"2) Cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, March 29, 1944 (Pages 49,77F, 153, 189)."

The files of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York as reviewed on May 8, 1950 failed to reflect any information identifiable with the subject.

DESCRIPTION

The following description of the subject was obtained from the file of the Veteran's Administration:

Name:	HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was: Harold Cruze, H. Cruse, H. W. Cruse, Harold Cruse, Harold W. Cruse, Harold Cruzi, Harold Wright
Sex:	Male
Race:	Negro
Born:	March 12, 1916 at Petersburg, Virginia
Residence:	116 West 117th Street, apartment six, New York City
Height:	5' 10"
Weight:	155 lbs.
Build:	Medium
Hair:	Black
Eyes:	Brown
Complexion:	Dark
Occupation:	Reporter - Lecturer (Freedom of the Press, Inc. 50 East Thirteenth Street)
Marital Status:	Single
Immediate Relatives:	Father: HANSON S. CRUSE, 116 West 117th Street Stepmother: FLORENCE CRUSE, 116 West 117th Street, New York City
Social Security:	134-22-1187
Army Serial No:	32012226.

- P E N D I N G -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

The birth records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics for the State of Virginia as reviewed by Special Employee [redacted] of the Richmond Division on June 8, 1950 reflect that the subject's mother's name was listed in these records as KATIE WRIGHT and the subject as illegimate with no father's name listed.

b7C

The files of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York were reviewed by Special Employee [redacted]

The records of the New York City Board of Elections, Manhattan Borough, were reviewed by Special Employee [redacted]

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will await Bureau decision concerning Form 122 submitted on subject.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT PAGE

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA [redacted] Jr., dated AUG - 7 1950 at New York, New York, are as follows:

[redacted]

Quarterly Report of the New York State Department of Labor as filed by Freedom of the Press Inc., 1948

[redacted] New York City

[redacted]

The records of the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation, Police Department, New York City, as reviewed by SA [redacted] on May 4, 1950

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[redacted] New York City

[redacted]

[redacted]

The records of G-2 as reviewed by SA [redacted] on May 8, 1950

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950.

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950.

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on or about May 10, 1950.

SA [redacted], who contacted subject's place of employment under suitable pretext on July 14, 1950.

[redacted] U. S. Court House, Foley Square, New York City as contacted by [redacted]

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b7C
b7D

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

FD-122
(1-2-51)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-)

DATE: May 14, 1952

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CHUSE, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Card U.T.D.
5-23-52 ltr
mad

___ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X ___ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

G.I.R.-6

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

_____

_____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM X TAB FOR COMSAB X RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

_____

_____

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List)

"Served in Armed Forces World War II"

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

_____

STATISTICAL SECTION MAY 21 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP0 rm/ma
#930169

JMF:ma

RECORDED - 71 100-37084 2-2

MAY 15 1952

FIVE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

FD-122
(1-2-51)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-

DATE: May 29, 1952

FROM: SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

G.I.R. 3

cst 3-1
Card U.T.D.
6-16-52 mt

___ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME

ALIASES Delete Aliases H. Cruse, H.W. Cruse, Harold Cruse FZ

NATIVE BORN ____ NATURALIZED ____ ALIEN ____

COMMUNIST ____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY ____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE ____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify)

TAB FOR DETCOM ____ TAB FOR COMSAB ____ RACE ____ SEX ____

DATE OF BIRTH ____ PLACE OF BIRTH ____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)

Unemployed

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List)

RESIDENCE ADDRESS

JTS:mat

RECORDED - 52 100-370842-3

JUN 2 1952

FBI
STATISTICAL SECTION
JUN 6 11 09 AM '52
STATISTICAL TAB
JUN 13 1952
FBI STATISTICAL SECTION
STATISTICS TAB
RECEIVED
JUN 16 1952
FBI

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b7C
INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP2 dmm/mlf
#930169

SAC, New York [redacted] b2 b7D March 19, 1953

Director, FBI CONFIDENTIAL

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE
SECURITY MATTER - C

SECURITY INFORMANT PROGRAM
NEW YORK DIVISION

Reurlet March 12, 1953.

Authority is granted to contact subject in accordance with the plan outlined on page two of your letter. In conducting this interview, you should be guided by existing Bureau instructions relating to interviews with security subjects. Advise Bureau results.

If the above interview cannot be conducted within thirty days, the Bureau should be furnished the reason why the contact has not been made and when you anticipate conducting the interview.

GFM:fg

FD-205 5/14/53 Have not been able to locate under-cover conditions. Lt. by 6/20/53.

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

3/30/2001 #930169

MAR 20 1953

5 APR

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Gearty	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Mr. Sizoo	
Miss Gandy	

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 3/12/53

FROM : SAC, New York [redacted] b2 b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was
SM - C
SECURITY INFORMANT PROGRAM
NEW YORK DIVISION

In connection with captioned program, subject is being considered for interview as a potential security informant within this division. The following is set out for the Bureau's information:

BACKGROUND:

CRUSE was born 3/16/16 at Petersburg, Va. He is single, a native born citizen of the negro race. Subject is reported to have graduated from the Haaren High School in 1936. From 1946 to 1951 CRUSE was employed as a Librarian and in other capacities by Freedom of the Press Co., Inc., then publisher of the "Daily Worker" and "The Worker". In 1952, subject was employed as a hospital attendant by the Department of Hospitals, City of NY. Subject is presently reported to be unemployed. He resides at 203 West 14 St., NYC.

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITY:

EXPEDITE PROCESSING

In May, 1947, subject was one of five hundred delegates who attended the first annual convention of the Communist Veterans of America at Turner's Arena, Washington, D.C. [redacted] In June, 1948, subject attended the Harlem Regional Convention of the CP. In 1949, it was learned subject had completed a thirty week course at the Jefferson School of Social Science. [redacted] b2 b7D

As set out above, subject was employed as a Librarian at Freedom of the Press, Inc., publishers of the "Daily Worker" from 1946 to 1951. CRUSE was also a copy boy in that establishment, and later wrote feature articles for the "Daily Worker".

1 - NY 100-87332 (HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE)

REGISTERED

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 AM/lmb ON 3/30/2009 #930169

MAR 16 1953

TMW:MG

COPIES DESTROYED
R472 MAR 28 1963

Letter to Director,
NY [redacted]

[redacted]

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b7D

No information has been developed to the effect that subject has defected from the CP. In 1952, CRUSE had some connection with the Chelsea Tenants Council, an affiliate of the NY Tenant Welfare and Consumer Council, which has been reported to be a Communist dominated organization.

The subject is included in the Security Index program in the NY Division.

PLAN OF APPROACH:

It is planned that the subject will be approached in a direct manner by two Agents of the NY Division. The approach will be made in a secure location away from the subject's residence.

Bureau authority is requested to interview CRUSE as a potential security informant.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

FD-122
(1-2-51)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 2/11/53

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was;
S.M. - C

Cert. 3/5/53 bgw

___ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X
___ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

_____

_____

FBI STATISTICAL SECTION FEB 20 3 40 PM '53 CARDS PREPARED

NATIVE BORN_____ NATURALIZED_____ ALIEN_____

COMMUNIST_____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY_____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE_____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM_____ TAB FOR COMSAB_____ RACE_____ SEX_____

DATE OF BIRTH_____ PLACE OF BIRTH_____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)_____

_____

_____

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List)

_____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 203 W. 14th St., N.Y., N.Y.

_____

100-370842-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP2 AM/MS
#930169

SJG:LJR

b7C

CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

FBI

SY [redacted]

February 5, 1953

PD

Received from the State Department
via liaison channels
Date 2-18-53

Harold Wright Cruse.

ATTENTION: [redacted]

In September 1952, the FBI furnished PD with a report dated August 7, 1950, in the case of Harold Wright Cruse, as the result of a name check. The transmittal sheet bore the notation that the Headquarters of the FBI, Washington, D. C. desired to be advised of the action taken based on the information supplied.

It is requested that the FBI be informed that passport No. 724181 which was issued to Cruse on August 29, 1952, and which has never been used as a travel document was surrendered in November, 1952, by him, at the Department's request.

[redacted]

FBI RECORD
FEB 27 1953

F130-Cruse, Harold Wright

PD:JFSimpson:nhm

CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 6/25/53

FROM : SAC, NY (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE
SM-C
SECURITY INFORMANT PROGRAM
NY DIVISION

G.I.R.-5

Rebulet 3/19/53.

In connection with attempts to interview CRUSE, under captioned program, continuing efforts have been made in order to interview subject in accordance with Bureau instructions.

Investigation conducted to date, plus surveillances and spot checks have failed to provide an opportunity to interview subject alone or under full security conditions.

It is not felt, at this time, that it is worthwhile to expend further time and effort in an attempt to interview this subject, therefore he is being removed from the PSI program for possible consideration in the future and will be replaced by another name.

1-NY [redacted] b2 b7D

RECORDED - 24

TM:HLK

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/2001 SP2 RUM/UMC
#93016

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	8/19/54	5/24;7/7,8,12, 14,15,19-23;8/ 2,9,10/54	[redacted] tab

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was	SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject resides 203 W. 14th St., NYC. Present employment unknown. Informants report subject's name appeared on list which contained numerous CP members and functionaries, 1950; sent letter to [redacted] 1951; subscribed to "Jewish Life", 5/22/47 to 5/22/48; HENRY WINSTON sent letter to subject requesting he attend meeting 4/23/51; participated in May Day Parade, 1951. Subject wrote reviews for "Daily Worker", 1949-1951. Subject received passport 8/29/52 for travel to Europe which was returned to Passport Office unused in November, 1952.

- P -

b7C
b2
b7D

DETAILS: All sources designated with a T symbol in this report are of known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

I. BACKGROUND

Residence

On November 12, 1952, [redacted] advised that subject's new address was 203 West 14th Street, New York City.

On August 5, 1953, [redacted] Avenue, New York City, [redacted] premises at 203 West

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R472 MAR 28 1963

AGENCY [redacted]
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 8-20-54
HOW FORW. [redacted]
BY [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
	ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP2 RMM/MNT #930169	SEARCHED-57 INDEXED-57

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3 - New York (100-87932)

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DEC AUG 1954

EX-125

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—50255-2

14th Street, advised that the subject had moved to the above residence [redacted]

On July 7, 1954, [redacted] of unknown reliability, but who is in a position to furnish residence information regarding the subject, advised that the subject continues to reside in an apartment at the top floor rear at 203 West 14th Street.

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Employment

On May 21, 1952, [redacted] of unknown reliability, but in a position to furnish employment information regarding the subject, advised that the subject was no longer employed by the "Daily Worker".

On November 12, 1952, [redacted] Division of Personnel, Department of Hospitals, 125 Worth Street, advised that the subject was appointed as an hospital attendant on February 15, 1952 and worked at Harlem Hospital until October 27, 1952 when he resigned for personal reasons.

On June 19, 1953, [redacted] advised that in early 1953 subject had stated he was attending a theatrical school in order to obtain employment as an author and director. He also claimed to be doing some work in the theatre line. Informant was unable to further identify the school the subject was attending or to elaborate on subject's theatrical work.

On July 7, 1954, [redacted] supra, advised he believed subject is attending some school under the G.I. Bill. The informant could furnish no further information regarding this school.

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On July 19, 1954, [redacted] advised that the subject had been employed as a film technician at Sterling Television Company, Incorporated, 205 East 43rd Street, New York City, as of May, 1953.

On July 21, 1954, [redacted] of unknown reliability, but who is in a position to furnish information regarding subject's employment, advised that the subject terminated his employment with Sterling Television Company, Incorporated in approximately April, 1954. Informant was unable to furnish any current employment for the subject.

Identification Record

The following is the Identification Record of the subject as maintained in the files of the Identification Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, under FBI number 56330B:

Contributor of Fingerprints	Name and Number	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
PD, Petersburg, Va.	HAROLD CREWS #1544	4/23/34	larc & aslt pol officer & B & E	
Army	HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE #32012226	3/12/41 NY, NY		

Fingerprint Classification

13 M 27 W IMO 12
M 11 W OIO

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY MOVEMENT

Communist Party Membership

On June 20, 1950, [redacted] furnished a list of names and addresses, many of whom, according to the informant, were noted to be Communist Party members or Communist Party functionaries. The subject's name appeared on this list.

In August, 1951, [redacted] advised that the subject had written a letter to [redacted] b2 b7D b7C

It is noted that the Jefferson School of Social Science has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Regarding [redacted] on March 25, 1951, [redacted] advised that he had ascertained that [redacted] is "out of circulation" which term, it is the informant's impression, means a person is connected with the Communist Party underground.

Evidence of Communist Party Sympathies

"Jewish Life"

Concerning "Jewish Life", the following appears in a booklet entitled, "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, May 14, 1951:

"1. 'Among typical examples of the Communist press and publications.' Published by the Morning Freiheit Association, Inc. (California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, pp. 49 and 225.)

"2. A Communist International publication distributed by the Communists' Progressive Book Shop in Boston, Mass. (Massachusetts House Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1938, p. 281.)"

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[redacted] advised on July 6, 1951 that the subject was a subscriber to "Jewish Life" from May 22, 1947 to May 22, 1948.

Writings For the "Daily Worker"

The "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

The "Daily Worker" of March 2, 1949, page 13, reflects an article captioned "On State", reflecting a letter on the American Negro Theatre Production of "Freight" written by the subject. The subject comment regarding this play as follows: "This play is devoid of progressive realism to the point of being reactionary which is lamentable in view of the excellent acting, staging and directing."

The "Daily Worker" for April 14, 1949, page 11, column 1, reflects a review of the book "China Changes My Mind", which review was written by the subject.

The "Daily Worker" for May 17, 1949, page 12, column 1, reflects an article captioned "On 'Stage', 'Gayden' another play on a psycopath" written by the subject.

The "Daily Worker" for October 31, 1950, page 11, column 3, reflects a review of an Italian Motion picture "Flesh Will Surrender." This review was written by the subject.

Subject comments that the story "isn't worth the efforts of a self-respecting group of film artists even of the right-wing variety. The theme is archaic, idealistic, its social value nil".

The "Daily Worker" for March 23, 1951, page 10, column 3, reflects an article entitled "People's Dance Group Initiates Weekend Program". This article states that the People's Dance Group, 130 West 23rd Street, would sponsor a series of Sunday dance programs presenting young modern dances to the public. The article also stated that as part of the group's educational program, a series of round-table discussions would be held led by HAROLD CRUSE dealing with Negro history and culture. The discussions were to be held every Saturday from three to five P.M.

The "Daily Worker" editions for March 30, 1951, page 10, columns one through five, and April 2, 1951, page 11, columns two through four, reflect a review of MARK CONNELLY'S "Green Pastures", written by the subject.

The "Daily Worker" for February 13, 1952, page 8, column 5, reflects an article entitled "Honor Heroes Friday in Fight on Housing Bias". This article stated that various Negro families who had moved into previoulsy all white communities would be honored on the following Friday night by the Manhattan Tenants Council at the Orchid Room of Small's Paradise, 135th Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. Among those listed to be honored was one HAROLD CRUSE of Greenwich Village.

[redacted] advised the following concerning the subject on the dates indicated: b2 b7D

April 19, 1950

Subject's name appears on a "Daily Worker" staff check list dated March 27, 1950 inviting all guild members of the "Daily Worker" to be present at a meeting to be held April 14, 1950.

June 6, 1950

Subject's name appeared on a "Daily Worker" staff committee list inviting members to a meeting to be held April 28, 1950 to hear a report by FRED FINE.

August 10, 1950

Subject made a donation to a fund sponsored by the editors of the "Daily Worker" to send Care packages to imprisoned Greek Communist journalists.

Regarding FRED FINE, it is noted that FRED FINE was one of the eleven leaders of the Communist Party, USA, who were convicted of a violation of the Smith Act in Federal District Court, Southern District of New York, October, 1949.

On October 9, 1947, [redacted] advised that the subject, who her identified as "a writer and lecturer for the 'Daily Worker'" was present at the Marxist Centenial Celebration held September 8, 1947 at Madison Square Garden, New York City. b2 b7D

May Day Parade

Concerning the May Day Parade, the following appears in a booklet entitled, "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, May 14, 1951:

"1. 'The May Day Parade in New York City is an annual mobilization of Communist strength.' (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, p. 179.)"

The United May Day Committee has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On February 25, 1954, [redacted] advised that the subject had been a participant in the 1951 May Day Parade sponsored by the United May Day Committee and held in New York City on May 1, 1951.

Affiliation with Various Organizations

The International Workers Order has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On the dates indicated, [redacted] advised of the following activities of the subject in connection with the International Workers Order (IWO).

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December 23, 1947

Subject was a member of IWO Lodge 691 during December, 1946.

February 21, 1950

Subject re-applied for membership in IWO Lodge 691 on August 3, 1949.

Communist Party Associates

On April 3, 1951 [redacted] advised that [redacted] The informant was unable to advise the significance of this meeting.

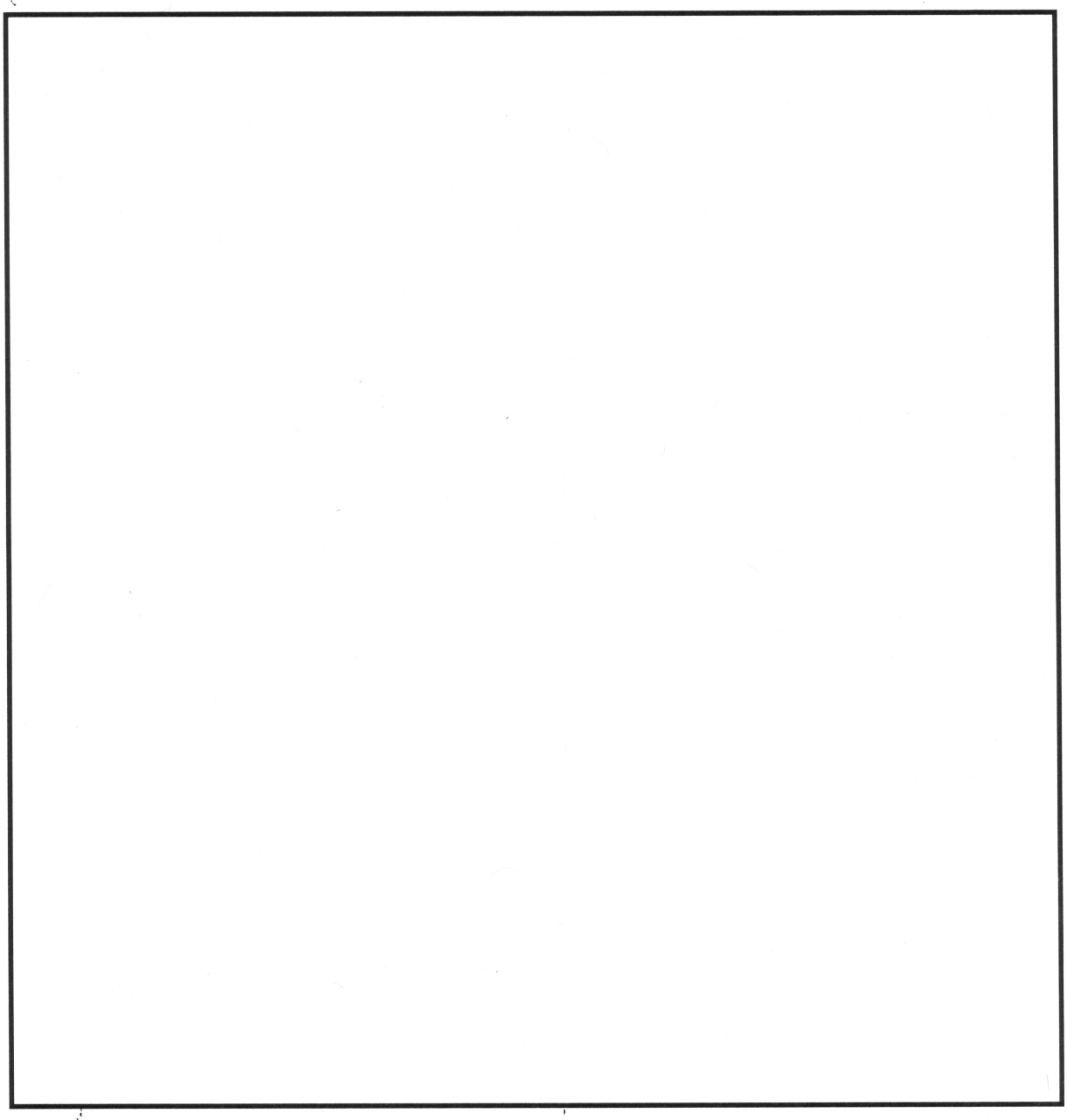
It is noted that HENRY WINSTON was one of the eleven Communist Party leaders who were convicted on a violation of the Smith Act in Federal District Court, Southern District of New York, in October, 1949.

Miscellaneous

Referral/Direct

Passport Application

[redacted]



[redacted]

On July 12, 1954, [redacted] advised he could furnish no current information regarding the subject.

The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, as reviewed by SE [redacted] on July 15, 1954, contain no reference to the subject. b7C b7D

[redacted] advised on July 22, 1954 that the subject opened an account at the Amalgamated Bank of New York on June 3, 1952. At the time the subject opened his account he gave the following individual as reference: [redacted] New York City. b2

[redacted] Regarding [redacted] advised that had been a member of the Communist Party, Washington, D.C., during the early 1940's. The informant indicated that [redacted] had come to Washington, D.C., from New York City in about 1940 to work at the Census Bureau.

According to the informant, [redacted] did not make much of an attempt to keep his membership in the Communist Party a secret.

[redacted] advised in January, 1946 that he had ascertained that HAROLD CRUSE, not further identified, had contacted [redacted] of the Communist Party, USA Headquarters and inquired regarding the requirements for attendance at a political economy seminar, he desired to attend. According to [redacted] told this individual that he must have some education in Marxism and must be interviewed. b2 b7C b7D

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File and Location
[redacted]	Residence, 1952	11/12/52	[redacted]	100-87332-38
	Employment, 1953	7/19/54		Instant report
[redacted]	Residence and employment, 1954	7/7/54		Instant report
[redacted] St., NYC				
[redacted] Pretext phone call to "Daily Worker"	Employment, 1952	5/21/52		100-87332-34
[redacted]	6/19/53			
[redacted] Pretext phone call to Sterling Television Co., Inc. OX 7-2520	Employment, 1954	7/21/54		Instant report

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Cont'd)

INFORMANTS (Cont'd)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File and Location
[redacted]	Name on CP list	6/30/50	[redacted]	100-85800-1B7690
	Letter to [redacted]	8/6/51		100-87332-29
	Subscriber to "Jewish Life" May, 1947 to May, 1948	7/6/51		100-87332-28
b2 b7C b7D [redacted]		4/3/51		97-169
	Member IWO #691 December, 1946	12/23/47		100-2936-1A645
	Reapplied for membership, IWO #691, 8/3/49	2/21/50		100-2936-1A645-(18)
	Name on "Daily Worker" staff list.	4/19/50		97-169-2670
		6/6/50		97-169-2578

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Cont'd)

INFORMANTS (Cont'd)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File and Location
[redacted] (Cont'd)	Contributed to "Daily Worker" Care package fund for Greek Communist journalists	8/10/50	[redacted]	97-169-2716
[redacted]	Attended Marxist Centenial, 9/18/47	10/9/47		100-26603-5894
[redacted]	Used to Document	[redacted]		
[redacted]	Participated in May Day Parade, 1951	2/25/54		100-87332-53 100-47142-1B171 (photo 9-F)
[redacted] Office of Security, U.S. Dept. of State, Washington, D.C.	Return of subject's passport	5/24/54		100-87332-55

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Cont'd)

INFORMANTS (Cont'd)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File and Location
[redacted]	Negative	7/12/54	[redacted]	Instant report
Health Insurance Plan				
[redacted]	Subject's bank account, 1952-1954	7/22/54		Instant Report
[redacted]	Used to Document [redacted]			
[redacted]	1/16/46			

MISCELLANEOUS

It is noted that [redacted] given by the subject as a reference in 1952, [redacted]

An amended FD-122 reflecting subject's employment status has been submitted.

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will continue investigation to ascertain subject's present employment.

REFERENCE Report of SA [redacted] New York, 8/7/50.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

FD-122
(5-11-53)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 8/10/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

Card U.T.D. 8-17-54 cte

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was.
SM-C

___ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

_____

_____

NATIVE BORN_____ NATURALIZED_____ ALIEN_____

COMMUNIST_____SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY_____INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE_____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM_____ TAB FOR COMSAB_____ RACE_____ SEX_____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Unknown

_____

KEY FACILITY DATA:
GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY_____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

_____

RM

RLF:CT

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INDEXED 10 AUG 1954

b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	FEB 4 [illegible]	7/28; 11/3,4/54; 1/10,25/55	[redacted] Dac

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was: Harold Cruze, Harold Cruzi, Harold Wright	SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject residing 203 West 14th St., NYC and reportedly intermittently employed in radio industry, NYC. Subject previously employed by Veterans Administration, NYC.

DR by 40-6
State by 0-14
0/5-55
R/S
Wmnfer

- P -

DETAILS: All informants used in this report are of known reliability unless designated otherwise.

cc DR + State

BACKGROUND

A. Education

[redacted] another government agency which maintains personnel records, advised that HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE attended the New Institute, Incorporated for Film and Television, 29 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn 17, New York during 1951 and claimed prior attendance 1930 to 1934 at Peabody High School, Petersburg, Virginia and Fred Douglass High School, New York City.

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B. Employment

[redacted] previously mentioned, advised that his records reflect that HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE was employed for one and one-half years at the Young Men's Christian Association, 180 West 135th Street, New York City; was in military service, Army Serial Number 32 012 226, from March 20, 1941 to September 16, 1945; was librarian, Freedom of the Press, Incorporated, 50

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3 - New York (100-87332)		

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7346

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—59288-3

East 13th St., New York City, 1946-1951; and was employed by the Veterans Administration, 346 Broadway, New York City.

[redacted] of unknown reliability, but who is in a position to know the subject's activities, advised that the subject is intermittently employed in radio industry in New York City but has no regular employment.

[redacted] advised that HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, 203 West 14th Street, New York City, was employed in 1953 as an addressograph operator, 345 Hudson Street, New York City.

C. Residence

[redacted] 203 West 14th Street, New York City, advised that HAROLD CRUSE resides in an apartment on the top floor rear at that address.

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D. Status of Health

b2

[redacted] previously mentioned, advised that HAROLD CRUSE was receiving a United States Government Disability check of $13.80 for flat feet, military service incurred.

b7D

DESCRIPTION

The following description of the subject was obtained from observation of the subject by SA [redacted] information furnished by [redacted] and the records of the Identification Division of the FBI:

Name	HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE
Aliases	Harold Cruze, Harold Cruzi, Harold Wright
Sex	Male
Race	Negro
Born	3-12-16 at Petersburg, Virginia
Residence	203 West 14th St., New York City, New York
Height	5' 10"
Weight	155 lbs.
Build	Medium
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark
Distinguishing characteristic	mustache
Occupation	intermittently employed in radio industry, NYC
Marital status	single
Relatives	Father, HANSON S. CRUSE, 116 W. 117th St., NYC Stepmother, FLORENCE CRUSE, " "
Soc. Sec. #	134-22-1187
Army Ser. #	32 012 226

NY 100-87332

FPC 13 M 27 W IMO 12
M 11 W OIO

- Pending -

NY 100-87332

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File Number where Located
[redacted] Subject's File C 7326438, VA 252 7th Ave.,NYC	Education Employment Health	11-3-54	[redacted]	Instant Report
[redacted] Pretext phone call to [redacted] St., NYC	Employment	1-10-55	"	"
[redacted]	Employment	7-28-54	[redacted]	"

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MISCELLANEOUS

For the information of the St. Louis Office, it has been reliably reported that HAROLD CRUSE spoke at a meeting on August 10, 1946 in New York City sponsored by the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America organization; was a delegate at the First Annual Convention of the Communist Veterans of America, Turner's Arena, Washington, D. C. in May 1947; [redacted] attended a meeting of the CP celebrating the Marxist Centennial at Madison Square Garden, NYC September 18, 1947; was employed 2-4-49 as a copy boy by the "Daily Worker"; attended the Harlem Regional Convention of the CP at the Elks Club, 15 West 126th St., NYC June 26 and 27, 1948; attended a "Daily Worker" sponsored dance at the Penthouse Ballroom, 13 Astor Place, NYC 12-11-48; was treasurer of the "Daily Worker" unit of the American Newspaper Guild, 1-18-49; was a member of IWO Lodge 691, Harlem, NYC, 4-17-50 and was librarian at the Freedom of the Press, Inc., publishers of the "Daily Worker", 1946-1951 and has written feature articles for the "Daily Worker"; subscribed to "Jewish Life" from 5-22-47 to 5-22-48.

LEADS

ST. LOUIS

At 4300 Goodfellow Boulevard

Will review the subject's military record, ASN 32 012 226, for

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)

LEADS (CONTINUED)

background information and any subversive information.

At Personnel Records Center, GSA, 1724 Locust St., will obtain the subject's personnel file reflecting employment with Veterans Administration, New York City, and review for background information and determine if the subject executed a loyalty oath and the date the oath was executed.

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] 8-7-50, NY.

b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

b7C

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. LOUIS, MO.	4/18/55	2/9,21;3/14, 22,23; 4/8/55	SE [redacted] nln

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was. Harold Cruze, Harold Cruzi, Harold Wright	SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject served in U. S. Army from 3/12/41 to 9/16/45. Received Honorable Discharge. Background and descriptive data set out. Records FRC, GSA, SLMO., indicate HAROLD W. CRUSE employed by Veterans Admn. at New York, N. Y. Supervisors set out. Terminated by resignation. Additional background data set out. Signed loyalty affidavit 10/2/45 and indicated loyalty on application dated 9/28/45. No photo contained in file. Born 3/8/16 at Petersburg, Va.

AGENCY DR Exp 6-6
REQ. RECD Stdd Exp 6-14
DATE FORW. 4-25-55
HOW FORW. R/S
BY Wm Crose

- RUC -

DETAILS: AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A review on April 8, 1955 of the Army service record on file at the Adjutant General's Office, Military Personnel Records Center, World War II Unit, Department of the Army, for HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, Army Serial No. 32 012 226, indicates that he was inducted into the U. S. Army on March 12, 1941 and entered on active duty on March 20, 1941 at New York City. He was honorably discharged on September 16, 1945 as a Technician Fourth Grade from the Separation Center at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland by reason of demobilization. No Reserve service indicated. He served two years, ten months and six days in foreign service in the European African Middle Eastern Theater and participated in the battles and campaigns of Algeria French Morocco and Rome-Arno. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Medal, and the European African Middle Eastern Theater Medal with two Bronze Stars.

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2 - ST. LOUIS (100-15337)

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55 APR 20 1955

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—59255-2

His character and efficiency ratings ranged from unknown to excellent. There is no record of courts-martial or absence without leave.

The following background and descriptive information is contained in the record:

Date & Place of Birth	March 8, 1916, Petersburg, Va.
Height	5' 10"
Weight	165 lbs.
Race	Negro
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Build	Medium
Education	12th Grade
Civilian Occupation	Information Clerk
Military Occupation	Chief Clerk
Addresses	2737 Cruger Ave., Bronx, New York, (1941); 849 E. Bank St., Petersburg, Va., (1944); 116 W. 117th St., Apt. 6, New York City (1946); P. O. Box 65, Cooper Sta., New York 3, N. Y. (1949).
Relatives	Father - HANSON CRUSE, 116 W. 117th St., New York City; Grandmother - LELA B. CRUSE, 849 E. Bank St., Petersburg, Va.
LDB #	104 at Bronx, New York
Order #	465
Vet. Adm. Claim #	C-7326438

No photograph of subject was contained in the file.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Employee [redacted]

b7C

On March 23, 1955, a review of the personnel records, Federal Records Center, General Services Administration, St. Louis, Missouri, for HAROLD W. CRUSE indicated that he was employed on October 2, 1945 as a Detail Clerk with the Veterans Administration, New York Branch of Central Office, 346 Broadway, New York, New York. His supervisors at the Veterans Administration were [redacted]

This employment was terminated on June 24, 1946 by reason of resignation, personal reasons. When questioned, he stated he was going to school.

The following additional background information was contained in the file:

Education	Indicated four years of high school at an unspecified school.
Employment	Under this heading on application CRUSE indicated his Army service and stated he had temporary jobs of less than three months duration. These temporary jobs were not specifically set out.
Address	1945 - 116 W. 117th St., Apt. 6, New York, New York.
References	[redacted] - Student, [redacted] New York, New York. [redacted] Wholesale Dairy Dealer, [redacted] Bronx, New York. [redacted] - Transportation Employee, [redacted] New York, New York. [redacted] - Housewife, [redacted] Bronx, New York. [redacted] - Artist.
Arrest	On application for employment dated September 28, 1945, he admitted an arrest in 1934 at Petersburg, Virginia for taking typewriter from a person. In City Court of Petersburg, Va., he was placed on probation.
Miscellaneous	Executed and signed Oath of Office Affidavit and Declaration of Appointee October 2, 1945, Section B of which is Affidavit Statement "Do further swear (or affirm) that I do not advocate, nor am I a member of any political party or

b7C

organization that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence; and that during such time as I am an employee of the Federal Government, I will not advocate nor become a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence."

Subject also executed and signed SF 57, Application for Federal Employment, on September 28, 1945 which, under Item 17, answered No to question, "Do you advocate or have you ever advocated, or are you now or have you ever been a member of any organization that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence?"

There was no photograph of subject contained in the file.

The date and place of birth were shown as March 8, 1916 at Petersburg, Virginia.

- RUC -

SL 100-15337

REFERENCE

b7C Report of SA [redacted] dated 2/4/55 at New York.

- ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE -

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 5/3/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was
SM-C

b7C Rerep of SA [redacted] NY, 2/4/55.

1- Subject resides 203 West 14th St., NYC, and is employed intermittently in the radio industry, NYC. Subject is a member of the Negro race.

2- Subject is unmarried.

3- Subject reliably reported as speaker at a meeting held on 8/10/46, in NYC, sponsored by the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America Organization; was a delegate at the First Annual Convention of the Communist Veterans of America, Turners Arena, Washington, D.C. in May, 1947; attended an executive meeting of the CP at the Ben Davis Club, 2315 Seventh Ave., NYC, 9/20/47; attended a meeting of the CP celebrating the Marxist Centennial at Madison Square Garden, NYC, 9/18/47; was employed 2/4/49, as a copy boy by the "Daily Worker"; attended the Harlem Regional Convention of the CP at the Elks Club, 15 West 126th St., NYC, 6/26 and 27/48; attended a "Daily Worker" sponsored dance at the Penthouse Ballroom, 13 Astor Place, NYC, 12/11/48; was treasurer of the "Daily Worker" unit of the American Newspaper Guild, 1/18/49; was a member of IWO Lodge 691, Harlem, NYC, 4/17/50; was librarian at the Freedom of the Press, Inc., publishers of the "Daily Worker", 1946-1951, and has written feature articles for the "Daily Worker"; subscribed to "Jewish Life", from 5/22/47 to 5/22/48.

4- Does not apply.

5- No information available.

6- No information available.

7- Information regarding the above organizations and persons connected therewith.

COMM-FBI MAY 10 1955 MAILED 20

Bureau authority is requested to interview subject in accordance with existing instructions relating to interviews of security subjects. If this subject is cooperative, no affirmative steps will be taken during the initial interview to direct his activities, but a separate communication will be directed to the Bureau setting forth the results of the interview, and requesting authority to recontact the subject as a potential security informant.

100-370842-9

RM APPROVED Date 5-10-55 RECORDED - 63 EX-125

63 MAR-RMO MAY 11 1955

16 MAY 5 19

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

#930169

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 6/17/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was
SM-C

Re N.Y. letter to Director, 5/3/55.

Captioned subject was contacted by SAS [redacted] on 6/8/55 as he approached his residence. He appeared surprised but not nervous. After ascertaining his identity, subject was apprised of the Agents identities and also of the fact they wished to talk to him. Subject agreed to talk to the Agents and accompanied them to a Bureau car, parked at a discreet distance from his residence.

CRUSE advised he was employed by the FISHER STEVENS CO., Clifton, New Jersey and left his residence at approximately 7 A.M., and returned to his residence at 6 P.M.. He advised he did not mind discussing his past activities in what he termed "The Communist Political Movement," but added he did not wish to state whether or not he had ever been a CP member and denied any present CP membership or affiliation. He admitted, however, that he had attended several meetings which he considered or "suspicioned" to be CP meetings. He stated he considered these meetings to have been sponsored by the CP and attended by CP members because CP membership or sympathies with CP movement were necessary to be admitted to them. He advised also that BEN DAVIS, who had admitted CP membership to him, was present at a goodly number of these meetings. CRUSE advised he first became interested in "The Communist Political Movement" while he was stationed at Camp George Meade in Maryland while still in the U. S. Army. He stated he met another enlisted man, whose name he could not recall, and they spoke at length concerning the rights of Negroes in the Army and the U. S. and this individual interested him in the United Negro Veterans of America. He stated he considered this his first contact with a person in this movement.

CRUSE advised he then joined numerous organizations such as the Civil Rights Congress 1948, Council on African Affairs 1948, American Labor Party Club 1948, and the International Workers Order 1946 through 1949 or 1950. He stated he joined many of these organizations because the fee was nominal and most of the people he was then associating with joined these organizations also. CRUSE added that to the best of his knowledge he did not ever attend any meetings of the Civil Rights Congress and only joined the International Workers Order for the health insurance benefits it offered.

1-NY (100-94014)

WAB:GHM

RECORDED-89 100-370842-10
INDEXED-89

7 JUN 20 1955

[redacted]

CRUSE advised he had attended several meetings at the Ben Davis Club of the CP and also at the Lincoln Douglas Club of the CP in New York City. He added he attended a training school sponsored by the CP in 1948 or the early part of 1949. He stated this school was held both at the Jefferson School of Social Science and in a hall on Astor Place, both located in NYC. He stated this course was based on the Negro question in the U. S. and was made up of different classes. CRUSE advised he was interested in what he could accomplish for his race and, at the time he was active in "The Political Movement", it was his belief the CP was the only organization helping to further these interests. He advised he worked for the "Daily Worker" and the Freedom of the Press from 1946 to 1951 and he obtained this position through the intercession of [redacted] N.Y. (ph) not further identified, whom he believed to be a CP member. CRUSE stated he was also a member of the "Daily Worker" unit of the American Newspaper Guild but was not an officer at any time.

It should be noted that former [redacted] advised on 1/18/49 subject was treasurer of the "Daily Worker" unit of the American Newspaper Guild.

CRUSE stated he went to Washington, D. C. to picket Congress in 1950 with one of the "Committees to Save WILLIE McGEE" and also attended a Progressive Party Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1948 but did not ever join the Progressive Party or attend any of its functions. b2 b7C b7D

CRUSE stated that in 1950 he began to realize that the CP was not helping and could not help the Negro race and he began to disassociate himself with the movement and the individuals connected with it.

CRUSE advised he still meets individuals occasionally who he suspects are still in the Party but added he did not wish to reveal their names or the names of past associates, as he had made up his mind in this matter "when I got out of the Party." It was pointed out to the subject that he again had a chance to serve his country and it was his duty to reveal the names of these individuals who may at some time do the U. S. great harm. Subject however, seemed to have some mental reservations about being labeled an informer.

CRUSE, at this point in the interview, stated he had recently met [redacted] in a store in lower Manhattan and [redacted] looked ten years older than he actually was and seemed to be nervous, suspicious of everyone, and completely mixed up. CRUSE advised he had

b7C

met [redacted] previously but was unable to recall if he met him at any functions sponsored by the CP.

CRUSE indicated he was a quiet person and was wary of furnishing the names of former associates for fear of this disclosure becoming known and then he would be bothered by investigators for different committees, etc. He was advised that any information he furnished the Bureau concerning other individuals would be maintained in strictest confidence and would not be disclosed at any time without his consent.

CRUSE was questioned concerning his refusal to sign a loyalty oath in connection with his request for a passport in 1952. He stated that at the time he requested this passport he wanted to leave all of his associates and the "CP Political Movement" and thought going to school in another country would be a good excuse for severing his relationships. He advised he was not actually against signing a loyalty oath and would not be against signing one at this time, should it ever be requested, but he was mad at the State Department for believing he was going to use his passport to further CP aims. He added he realizes now the State Department had every reason to believe he had an ulterior motive in requesting a passport in view of his previous action in regard to the CP.

When the interview was concluded subject advised he would not mind being recontacted at a later date concerning matters with which he was formerly connected, but requested he be contacted by the interviewing agents although not giving any specific reason for this request.

It should be noted subject was very cordial and appeared to want to cooperate but had some mental reservations about being labeled an informer. However, it is believed if the subject is recontacted and his complete confidence gained he will eventually become completely cooperative and may in time consent to become active if feasible.

In view of the above facts UACB the New York Office will recontact the subject within thirty days from the date of this letter in an attempt to gain his complete confidence and obtain additional information with the view to developing him as a PSI in the future if deemed advisable by the Bureau. No attempt will be made at this time to develop subject as a PSI and the results of the interview will be furnished the Bureau and Bureau permission will be requested before he is recontacted.

Inasmuch as subject was cooperative to some extent and it believed he may be developed as a PSI and possibly once again become active in the CP, a report is not being submitted at this time setting out the results of the interview which have been furnished in this letter. However, after subsequent contacts with the subject, a report will be submitted setting forth all pertinent information.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 8/3/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was
SM - C

Re SAC letter 55-30, 4/12/55.

Security Index card cancelled

CANCELLED

AUG 15 195

Succinct Resume of Case

In the 5/8/47 issue of the "Daily Worker", on page three, column five, an article entitled "Communist Vets Meet in Capitol Today" states HAROLD CRUSE was one of five hundred delegates to attend the first annual convention of the Communist Veterans of America, which met in Turner's Arena in Washington, D.C. This meeting was called by ROBERT THOMPSON, New York State Chairman of the CP.

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b7D

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in 1947-1949 that subject: was a writer and lecturer for the "Daily Worker"; was present at the Marxist Centennial Celebration held 9/18/47 at Madison Square Garden, NYC; [redacted] b7C attended the Harlem Regional Convention of the CP held in the Elks Hall, 15 West 126th Street, NYC; completed a thrity week course at the Jefferson School of Social Science 1949. Informant advised on 10/30/48 he was of the opinion the subject may be inclined to be dangerous in the event of a national emergency because of his fanatical support of the Communist Program.

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in 1949 and 1951 that subject: was treasurer of the "Daily Worker" Unit of the American Newspaper Guild; wrote a letter to [redacted] Informant advised on 6/20/50 subjects name appeared on a list which, according to the informant, were noted to be CP members or CP functionaries.

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the

RECORDED - 34 100-370842-11

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP0 [redacted]

#930169

RM

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WAB:HAN

71 AUG 18 1955

past, advised on 2/25/54 the subject was a participant in the 1951 May Day Parade sponsored by the United May Day Committee and held in New York City on 5/1/55.

Subject interviewed 6/8/55 and admitted he attended several meetings closed to anyone not a CP member or sympathetic to CP cause 1946-1951 when he "left the Party". Subject admitted working for the "Daily Worker", attending Marxist Centennial celebration, joining Civil Rights Congress, joining Council on African Affairs, and writing articles for the "Daily Worker". Subject was cooperative to some extent but failed to furnish names of any former associates or individuals he knew or considered to be CP members.

Recommendation

Delete from SI.

Subject by his own admission "left the Party in 1951" which of course, indicated he was a member until that time. However, there is no information available indicating subversive activity on the part of the subject since 1951. Although it is realized subject, by being a CP member as of 1951, would ordinarily be retained on the SI, in view of the fact subject was cooperative when interviewed and it is believed he may prove more cooperative at future interviews, subject is being recommended for deletion from the SI.

Detcom Tabbing

1) Subject is presently tabbed for Detcom and Comsab.

2) Subject has not been approved for Detcom tabbing under the new criteria in SAC letter 55-12(A), and security index cards have not been received from the Bureau bearing the stamp "Detcom" in large red letters.

3) Subject being recommended for deletion from SI.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 8/17/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332) ATTENTION: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was
SM-C

Re New York letter to Bureau dated 8/3/55.

By above relet, Bureau authorized cancelling the Security Index cards formerly maintained for this subject at New York.

It is therefore requested that the Security Flash formerly placed for this subject in favor of the New York Office under FBI No. 56 330 B be now be cancelled.

SI card Cancelled
8/30/55 JJ

RM

CLS:MXW

RECORDED-32 100-370842-12

AUG 29 1955

EX-121

ONE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP2 AM/MF

#930169

71 SEP 1 1955

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370842)

DATE: 9/15/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was
b7C SM - C

Rerep SA [redacted] 9/15/55, NY, and NYlet to Director 8/3/55.

Enclosed are four copies of the report of SA [redacted] 9/15/55, NY.

~~The referenced~~ letter advised that the subject would be recontacted unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, to obtain additional information from the subject. In the absence of instructions from the Bureau that the subject could not be recontacted, the subject was recontacted on July 13, 1955 and August 18, 1955, by SAS [redacted] and [redacted]

On the earlier date the subject still refused to name any of his associates in the CP, but did advise that he knew [redacted] and had attended social functions at their apartment, [redacted] NYC. He said he did not know these individuals to be CP members although he thought they were members of the CP or he would not have been invited to their apartment inasmuch as he is a Negro and they are members of the white race. b7C

It should be noted that [redacted] is [redacted]

CRUSE also advised he knew [redacted] who is presently [redacted] and is missing. He stated that [redacted] had been in the CP for a good many years and it was his belief that [redacted] is a "plodder" in the movement and thoroughly imbued with the CP line. He added that he never attended any meetings with [redacted] but to the best of his recollection [redacted] had told him of his CP affiliations. b7C

On 8/18/55, CRUSE advised that he held the title of Educational Director of the Lincoln Douglas Club, CP, USA.

Encs. (4)

1-NY 100-81508
1-NY 100-112559
1-NY 100-124758

RM 52 SEP 29 1955

WAB:JEW

100-370842-13

RECORDED - 64

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during 1947-48, but was not very active in this roll. He added that the members seemed to think that he was a "real intellectual" and followed him fairly closely, rather than follow the leaders of the club. He stated that he heard this dissension caused concern among the higher echelon of the Party but he did not ever hear of this spoken of openly.

On August 18, 1955, CRUSE still appeared to be cooperative but advised he did not wish to name any of his associates as he had been out of the Party for approximately four years and could not state if any of these individuals were still members.

During the course of this interview it was learned that the subject is presently in the process of writing a book on Negro history, and intended to include some statements regarding the treatment of Negroes in the CP.

It should be noted further that the subject declined to furnish a signed statement and stated he was not willing to testify to any information furnished by him at any time.

Although the subject appeared to be cooperative and sincere and apparently furnished complete information concerning his CP activities, in view of the fact that he has steadfastly refused to name any of his CP associates and is presently writing a book, it is believed that further contact with this subject, or attempts to develop him as a PSI would not be profitable and could possibly cause embarrassment to the Bureau were he to include the contents of these contacts in the above-mentioned book.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	9/15/55	6/8-10,13,17; 7/13,14,18,17,18 23;9/7-9/55	[redacted] jew/mal
TITLE			**CHARACTER OF CASE**
HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was			SECURITY MATTER - C

b7C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE was interviewed on 6/8/55, 7/13/55, and 8/18/55, and advised: he was Educational Director of the Lincoln Douglas Club, CP, USA, 1947-1948; he was a member of the ALP Club, Civil Rights Congress, Council on African Affairs in 1948, and IWO, 1946 to 1949, but did not attend meetings of these organizations; he attended a course for CP leaders at the Jefferson School of Social Science, 1948 or 1949; he was an associate of BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.

AGENCY FBI, by 0-14
~~REG. REC'D~~ FBI by L
DATE FORW. 9-28-55
HOW FORW. R/S
BY Wmmfuse

- C -

DETAILS:

I BACKGROUND

a) Birth Data

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE advised on June 8,1955, that he was born March 8,1916, at Petersburg, Virginia. He stated his father is HANSON CRUSE and he did not know his mother, although he had been told about her.

b) Residence

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE advised on June 8, 1955, that he resides on the top floor of the apartment building located at 203 West 14th Street, New York City.

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R472 MAR 28 1963

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
	HK IRM	100-370842-13

ENCLOSURE

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
4 - Bureau (100-370842) (RM)
3 - New York (100-87332)

DECLASSIFIED BY 60 NUM/UMC ON 3/30/2006
INDEXED - 64
RECORDED - 64
SEP 1955
930 69

CONFIDENTIAL

81

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—59255-8

c) Employment

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE advised on June 8, 1955, that he was employed by the Fisher Stevens Company, exact address unknown, Clifton, New Jersey.

CRUSE also advised on June 8, 1955, that he was employed by the "Daily Worker" and the Freedom of the Press from 1946 to 1951.

It should be noted that the "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper, and the Freedom of the Press is the publisher of the "Daily Worker".

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

a) Communist Party Membership

On June 8, 1955, July 13, 1955, and August 18, 1955, HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE was interviewed by SAS [redacted] and [redacted], and he advised that he first became interested in the "Communist Political Movement" while he was stationed at Camp George Meade in Maryland, while in the United States Army. He stated that he met another enlisted man, whose name he could not recall, and they spoke at length concerning the rights of Negroes in the Army of the United States, and this individual interested him in the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America. He added he considered this his first contact with a person in this movement. b7C

It should be noted that the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America has been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On June 8, 1955, CRUSE would not admit past membership in the Communist Party, but denied any present Communist Party membership or affiliation. He admitted, however, that he considered or "suspicioned" several

meetings which he had attended to be Communist Party meetings. He stated that he considered these meetings to have been sponsored by the Communist Party and attended by Communist Party members, because membership in the Communist Party or sympathies in favor of their policies were necessary to gain admittance to these meetings.

On August 18, 1955, the subject stated that he was Educational Director of the Lincoln Douglas Club, Communist Party, USA, during 1947-1948, exact dates not recalled. He stated that he was not actually in a leadership capacity, but that there was a good deal of friction in this club, and a good many of the members supported him.

b) Communist Party Front Organizations

American Labor Party Club (ALP)
Civil Rights Congress (CRC)
Council on African Affairs (COAA)
International Workers Order (IWO)
Progressive Party (PP)

It should be noted that the CRC, COAA, and the IWO have been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 9, 1954, that from the time of its inception in 1936, there existed within the American Labor Party a struggle for power among three groups. These were the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, and the Social Democrats. By the early 1940's, the Communist Party emerged as the controlling force within the American Labor Party in the major industrial areas in New York State. Generally these were the areas around Albany, Buffalo, Jamestown, Rochester, Schenectady, Syracuse, Troy, the Hudson River Valley, Columbia, Dutchess, Nassau, and Westchester Counties, and New York City, with the exception of Brooklyn. [redacted] knew this situation to

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continue up until at least 1949. The American Labor Party never developed into an organization of any real consequence in the non-industrial areas of New York State.

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b7D

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 9, 1955, that the Communist Party today, as in the past, through its members in key positions in the American Labor Party, constitutes the force that controls it.

The National Committee, Communist Party, USA, in issuing its final text on the "Resolution Growing Out of the Presidential Elections" in "Political Affairs", issue of July, 1953, stated in substance that in 1948 the Communist Party helped stimulate the formation of the Progressive Party and correctly supported the Progressive Party through the 1952 Elections.

It then states:"However, the mistake our Party made was to confuse its task with the historic task of forming a new mass party of the people. As a consequence there existed the wrong estimate that the formation of the Progressive Party should be something more than the simple emergence of an important fighting force for peace; that it should be the emergence of a great mass peoples party".

As a result of this reasoning, it concluded that the Progressive Party, the Communist Party, and other progressive forces "must unite in a broad mass front coalition".

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE advised he joined the ALP Club in 1948, the CRC in 1948, the COAA in 1948, and the IWO in 1946 through 1949.

CRUSE advised he joined many of these organizations because the initial fee was nominal and most of the people he was then associated with also joined these organizations. He added that to the best of his knowledge he did not ever attend any meetings of the CRC or the COAA, and he joined the IWO for the health insurance benefits it offered.

CRUSE advised he attended a Progressive Party Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1948, but did not join the Progressive Party or attend any of its meetings.

c) Knowledge of Aims and Purposes of the Communist Party

The Jefferson School of Social Science has been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

CRUSE advised on June 8, 1955, that he attended a training school for Communist Party leaders, sponsored by the Communist Party, in 1948, or the early part of 1949. He stated that this school was held both at the Jefferson School of Social Science and in a meeting hall located on Astor Place, exact address unknown, both located in New York City. He advised that it was never openly stated that the Communist Party intended to overthrow the Government of the United States by force or violence, but it was implied and it was his belief all members of the Communist Party attending this school were aware of this fact.

d) Communist Party Associates

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE advised on June 8, 1955, that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr. was well known to him and had told him that he was a member of the Communist Party.

It should be noted that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr. was one of the Communist leaders convicted on October 14, 1949, for violation of the Smith Act in 1940, in Federal District Court, Southern District of New York.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

The subject advised on June 8, 1955, that when he refused to sign a loyalty oath in connection with obtaining a passport in 1952, he did not refuse to sign this oath because of the fact that he did not subscribe to its

contents but merely because the State Department was inferring that he wanted the passport for reasons other than he had stated. He stated that at the time he requested this passport he wanted to leave all his associates in the "Communist Party Political Movement", and thought that going to school in another country would be a good reason for severing his relationships.

He added he realized now that the State Department had every reason to believe he had an ulterior motive in requesting a passport in view of his previous actions in connection with the Communist Party.

He also added that he would be glad to sign a loyalty oath at any time in the future if he were ever called upon to do so.

- C -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File Number where Located
[redacted] (request)	Documentation of ALP			
[redacted]	Documentation of ALP			

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Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

REFERENCES Report of SA [redacted] 2/4/55, NY.
NY letter to Director, 6/17/55.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

(4)

(C) [redacted] b7C

SAC, New York (100-87332) December 10, 1956

Director, FBI (100-370842) - 14

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurlet November 26, 1956.

Authority granted.

This interview should be conducted in such a fashion that this subject will have no basis for using his relationship with the Bureau as a means for selling his book or in any other fashion which is not in the interests of this Bureau.

During the course of your interview with Cruse you should take particular pains so as not to disclose your source of information or any investigative technique.

YELLOW:

Subject has been previously interviewed on several occasions in 1955 and 1956. He has cooperated and on the last interview, 4/12/56, named approximately 12 individuals known to him as CP members during his period of membership, 1947-1952. New York desires to interview him concerning information received from [redacted] feeling that Cruse could elaborate on the significance of the information from this highly confidential source. On the occasion of the last interview with Cruse, Cruse stated he was at that time writing a book. He indicated that the book, while fictional, was to be based on his experiences in the CP. Subject removed from SI 8/15/55. Subject's employment has been that of clerk, hospital attendant. He has been employed by the "Daily Worker." He was a writer and lecturer as of 1950.

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OTM:plc
(4)

Tolson
Nichols
Boardman
Belmont
Mason
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Nease
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/30/2000 BY SP2 RWM

#93016

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 11/26/56

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE, was.
SM - C

Re NY letter to the Director 9/15/55.

HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE has been the subject of a security type investigation in the NYO. He was interviewed by Special Agents of the NYO on 6/8/55 at which time he discussed his CP affiliations. The subject at the time of contact was cordial and cooperative. He was subsequently deleted from the SI under the security index review program.

The subject was recontacted by Agents of the NYO on July 13, 1955 and 8/18/55 at which time he again was cooperative but refused to furnish the identities of individuals he had known during his period of activity in the CP.

The subject was last contacted on April 12, 1956 at which time he was again cooperative and supplied the NYO with the names of approximately 12 individuals whom he knew as CP members during his period of CP membership 1947-1952.

On 9/19/56, [redacted] who is in a position to furnish reliable information concerning material maintained in [redacted] (identified as Harlem Region CP [redacted] made available information which is believed to be a compilation of 1951 CP membership registration data. It should be noted that this information lists 35 individuals by full name together with sufficient background information for accurate identification. Contained in this listing of 35 individuals is the name "Harold Cruz" who is believed to be identical with the subject. b2 b7C b7D

In view of the subject's past record of cooperation with this Bureau, it is felt that contact with him at this time would more accurately determine the nature of the information received from [redacted]

2- Bureau (100-370842)(RM)
1- New York (100-68478 Sub B) [redacted]
1- New York (100-87332)

4 NOV 28 1956

JJJ:mel
(4)

SUBV. CONTROL

It is believed that additional pertinent information concerning CP activity may be obtained concerning the 34 individuals mentioned in this material.

However, it is noted that in the contact with CRUSE, had on April 12, 1956, CRUSE stated that he was at that time writing a book. The subject indicated that the book while fictional would be based on his experiences in the CP.

In view of the above information, Bureau authority is requested to contact CRUSE in an effort to clarify and amplify the information furnished by

b2
b7D

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 1/21/57

FROM : SAC, New York (100-87332)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE
SM-C

ReBulet to NY 12/10/56.

Subject was interviewed by SAS [redacted] and [redacted] on 12/27/56.

The subject was contacted at his home and was advised of the identities of the Agents. The subject stated that he did not desire to have any further contact with representatives of this Bureau. CRUSE said that he had given considerable thought to his position with regard to his prior affiliations, and that he felt that he could not personally gain by cooperating with representatives of the Federal Government. CRUSE added that inasmuch as he could see no opportunity for personal gain by speaking with Agents of this Bureau, that he desired to have no further contact with them.

The subject was reminded of his responsibilities as a citizen of the United States to cooperate with Federal authorities. The subject reiterated that in view of the fact that he did not see where he could gain personally by speaking to this Bureau, he would refuse to do so at this time and at any time in the future.

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In connection with the subject's actions at the time of contact, it should be noted that [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on 12/17/56 that the informant had attended the evening performance of the play "Candide" at the Martin Beck Theatre in NYC. [redacted] The informant stated that among those whom he saw at the theatre at that time was the subject.

In view of the above, it is not anticipated that the subject will be recontacted.

This matter is being placed in a Closed status in the NYO.

(2) - Bureau (100-370842)(RM) RECORDED-3 100-370842-15
1 - New York (100-68478 Sub B [redacted] #12-16)
1 - New York (100-87332)

JJJ:cc
(4)

JAN 23 1957

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67 JAN 29 1957

SUBV. COPY

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: May 1, 1968

FROM : [redacted]

Nelson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

SUBJECT: BOOK REVIEW: "THE CRISIS OF THE NEGRO INTELLECTUAL" BY HAROLD CRUSE
RACIAL MATTER

Captioned book was reviewed for background material concerning the racial situation in America. [redacted]

AUTHOR:

Harold Cruse is a Negro who was born in Petersburg, Virginia, according to a note about the author in captioned book. He was raised in Virginia and New York City and has been a critic and writer since the end of World War II. This is his first book. Bureau files show that a Harold Cruse, born in Petersburg, Va., residing in New York City, and employed as a writer, was a member of the Communist Party in 1947. He was interviewed and furnished limited information about his Party activities but refused to name his associates in the Party. This Cruse appears identical to the author, although a definite conclusion cannot be made without more data concerning the author.

b7C

BOOK:

The central theme of this book is that it is not possible for the Negro to be integrated in America because America itself is not integrated. The author feels America is dominated by three separate groups, white Protestants, white Catholics and white Jews, which are not integrated. Thus, the Negro could never be integrated.

REC- 69
100-370842-16
ST-103

CONTINUED - OVER to MAY 8, 1968

1 - 100-370842 (Harold Wright Cruse)
1 - 62-46855 (Book Review File)
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - [redacted]
1 - [redacted]

TJD:mrm
(9)

54 MAY 15 1968

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/30/2001 BY SP2 AM/mlf #938/69

CRUSE, HAROLD 72

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: BOOK REVIEW: "THE CRISIS OF THE NEGRO INTELLECTUAL"

The book traces the history of various movements, the "Back to Africa" movement, the separate nation movement and the integration movement. He concentrates on the philosophy of each movement as it relates to the Negro intellectual. Cruse claims the Negro intellectual has failed to define Negro goals.

Cruse is a black nationalist, as opposed to an integrationist, and one review of his book noted that it is a "polemical thrust against the advocates of integration, who, he asserts, have misdirected Negroes from truly radical and creative goals."

However, this book is also a history of various Negro movements in this country, up to and including the Malcolm X influence. Malcolm X was a militant black nationalist leader who was assassinated. As a history, this book contains material of reference value in studying the history of black nationalism in America.

MENTION OF THE FBI:

Neither the FBI nor the Director is mentioned.

ACTION:

That this book be maintained in the Bureau Library for reference purposes.

75

Harold O Cruse

b7C

3/30/2001 per [redacted]
CLASSIFIED BY SP2 Aum/mlc
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1-9
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100-370842
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105-94231-73
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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-370842) DATE: 9/30/68

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-87332) (C)

SUBJECT: HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE
SM-C
(OO: NY)

Re Passport Office memo, dated 8/6/68.

Referenced memo reflects subject renewed his passport at New York, in July, 1968, and indicated that his travel plans were unknown.

b7C

On 9/26/68, SA [redacted] contacted the subject at his residence under the guise of a travel agency seeking to handle travel arrangements for any trips he has planned for the future. Subject advised he has no current plans to travel outside of the United States, in that, he is busy with writing and has several lectures scheduled in the future.

In view of the above, no further action is being taken in this case at this time.

REC-57 100-370842-19

EX-105 18 OCT 2 1968

2-Bureau (RM)
1-New York

JJP:bll
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5010-108-01

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
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Callahan
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Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: January 9, 1969

FROM :

SUBJECT: BOOK REVIEW
"REBELLION OR REVOLUTION"
BY HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE
RACIAL MATTERS

This memorandum presents a review of captioned book published in 1968 by William Morrow and Company, Incorporated, which is being placed in the Bureau library.

b7C

SYNOPSIS:

Harold Wright Cruse, born March 8, 1916, at Petersburg, Virginia, is a Negro writer and critic. He is a former member of the Communist Party which he left in 1952. His book "Rebellion or Revolution" centers on the attainment of cultural equality for the Negro and examines the impact various leaders, writers, thinkers, performers, and organizations have had on the Negro movement. No mention is made in this book of the Director or the FBI.

ACTION:

For information.

1 - ~~100-370842~~ (Harold Wright Cruse)
1 - 62-46855 (Book Review File)

EMJ:bkb
(9)

REC 82 100-370842-18

DETAILS PAGE TWO 17 JAN 22 1969

RACIAL MATT. SECT.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: BOOK REVIEW
"REBELLION OR REVOLUTION"
BY HAROLD WRIGHT CRUSE

DETAILS:

REVIEW OF BUREAU FILES

Harold Wright Cruse is a Negro, born March 8, 1916, at Petersburg, Virginia. He served in the United States Army from 1941 to 1945 receiving an honorable discharge. He has been a writer and critic since World War II and a member of the Communist Party from 1947 to 1952. He was employed by the Daily Worker for which paper he wrote reviews from 1949 to 1951. He was removed from the Security Index in 1955 and has been interviewed several times by the FBI but furnished only limited information concerning his Communist Party activities. This is the second book by Cruse, the first being the "Crisis of the Negro Intellectual" which was reviewed by the Domestic Intelligence Division on May 1, 1968.

BOOK REVIEW

The central theme of this book is that the Negro movement in this country before it can become a revolutionary movement must first attain cultural equality in the fields of art, film, theater, radio, television, and music.

Throughout the book Cruse is critical of the Communist Party for its grave mishandling of the Negro question and its lack of understanding of the Negro movement which he also offers as his reasons for leaving the Party.

The book traces the history of the Negro movement examining and endeavoring to explain the impact that the various leaders, writers, thinkers, performers, and organizations have had on the movement. In this regard, the book contains material of reference value concerning the history of the Negro movement in America.

MENTION OF THE FBI

Neither the Director nor the FBI are mentioned in this book.

0-19 (Rev. 7-17-68)

Tolson
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Black Doctrinist

By Robert C. Maynard
Washington Post Staff Writer

Book Review
'Rebellion or Revolution'
By Harold Cruse (Morrow, 272 pp., $6.95).

IN GENERAL, Harold Cruse's work is like a big, tough steak: difficult to chew — and swallow—but too flavorful to put aside. This particular book is warmed-over chuck, without the succulence of his first published book, "Crisis of the Negro Intellectual."

Cruse comes to us from a previous generation of Negro radicalism, the left-wing movement of the 1940s and 1950s. That was an age deeply concerned with social theory and it drowned itself in arguments over dialectic. Although Cruse had a bitter falling out with the Communists, he is, to state it flatly, still hung up with a movement that time has passed by.

We are treated, for example, to old Daily Worker reviews that caused Cruse some trouble with the party hacks. Reading them now, the reader is forced to ask, Why? Why must we go through all of that again? Cruse squares off against irrelevancy and demolishes it, but one is never certain why he bothers.

RETELLING the tale of the bruising experience of being a Negro Communist, Cruse sheds a little light on the question of why he belabors his unhappy Party past.

"It was not until my two theater reviews appeared that the Communist bigwigs began to writhe uncomfortably and question my 'cultural ideology.' Their general response was a serious blow to my blooming critical ego."

That ego finally suffered to the point where Cruse remained silent for many years, taking in everything around him with his hungry, capacious mind but writing little that was published until last year, when "Crisis" appeared. There, as in the present book, he was concerned with the influence of white radicals on black radicals, but he did have a point that was important to make: Political colonialism of either the left or the right was damaging to the need for blacks to define their own political course.

In that book, as in this one, Cruse seeks to define a standard of revolutionary development and he is disappointed with the lack of historical orientation that marks the thought of today's black radicals. Holding to a high socialist theoretical standard, he chides the current crop of radicals, saying, "to make capitalistic reformism even more persuasive as dominant practice, the Black Powerites demand it programmatically. What kind of social methodology, then, can transcend this state of affairs?

"Then there is the question of the revolutionary anarchism of the urban guerrillas' "Black Power wing." He is after social theory, dialectic, again. He wants the movement to have some historical perspective, a *definition* that can be relied upon.

He regards it as somewhat appalling that the social theory flows from action on the streets, and he sees in this a real danger of blacks being misled. He understands, but is impatient with, the anger and the urgency that cause the movement today to strike first and theorize later.

THE BOOK is a curious one, filled as it is with arguments from the radical movement of the past. More than half its pages are concerned with Cruse's battles against the orthodox and tired socialists whose names most newspaper readers of today would hardly even recognize. He belabors the "revisionism" of Edouard Bernstein, linking it with today's black power activism.

Cruse stands almost alone as a social critic using what are basically 19th century tenets to discuss the current American black movement. It is possible that at some point in the future, Cruse will become to the movement what Fanon is, but this could only occur if the movement becomes much more doctrinaire than it now is.

1968, The Washington Post Co.

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The Washington Post
Times Herald
The Washington Daily News
The Evening Star (Washington)
The Sunday Star (Washington)
Daily News (New York)
Sunday News (New York)
New York Post
The New York Times
The Sun (Baltimore)
The Daily World
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
People's World
Examiner (Washington)

Date DEC 3 1968

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176 JAN 16 1969

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

Referral/Direct

August 6, 1968

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